

Senior Citizen Commission Meeting – May 23, 2014

Trumbull Senior Citizen Commission

May 23, 2014

10:00 am

Long Hill Conference Room

The Senior Citizen Commission of the Town of Trumbull held a scheduled meeting on May 23, 2014 in the Long Hill Conference Room in the Trumbull Town Hall.

Members Present: Chairperson, Rachel Yahwak; Vice Chairperson, Roberta Bellows; Amy DeZenzo, Ron Foligno, Dee Chiota

Also present: Jean Ferreira

Members Absent: Joan Mehlhorn, Rita Grossi, Dorothy Merritt

This is a brief summary of the meeting.

A quorum being present, the Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:09 am followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Session

The chairperson made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 10:09 am to discuss activities. Attendees include the following commission members: Yahwak, Bellows, DeZenzo, Foligno and Chiota. Motion was seconded by Mrs. DeZenzo and approved unanimously. The chairperson made a motion to exit the Executive Session at 10:30 am. Motion seconded by Mrs. Bellows and approved unanimously.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Past Minutes

Mrs. Yahwak noted the following corrections to the minutes of April 25, 2014: All references to Dorothy Merritt should be “**Ms**” not “Mrs”. Also on page 2, first paragraph, sentence should read “Mrs. Yahwak passed around the letter written by Mrs. DeZenzo and **Mrs. Bellows.**” Motion was made by Mrs. Chiota to approve the minutes of April 25, 2014 as amended. Seconded by Mr. Foligno and approved unanimously.

Secretary’s Report

Mrs. Chiota sent a thank you note to Helen Weinstein for her many years of service to the Senior Center and the town. Mrs. Yahwak requested a thank you be sent to Fran Hanna and her daughter, Gail, for chairing the Tea Party.

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Chairman's Report

Mrs. Yahwak thanked everyone who helped with the Tea Party including Fran Hanna and her daughter, Ron and Barbara Foligno, Roberta Bellows, Gloria Monico, Gloria Separak and Sylvia Jones. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. They are already asking for another party.

A game day was not held because there was not enough interest at this time possibly because of the Memorial Day holiday. This has been a great activity and could be done in the winter.

AT&T event is today at 1pm.

Bingo is on May 30. Mrs. Fereira will need help at this event. Easy set up. Volunteers were requested from the Commissioners.

Pizza and a Movie – May 29 is the First Wives Club and June 6 is the Butler.

There will also be a Calypso Party on the patio June 13.

Volunteers are requested to help with membership in June. Mrs. Fereira noted since they requested checks only, members are sending renewals through the mail. The process has been streamlined and she does not think she needs any volunteer help at this time.

Volunteers are also needed to help with the Health Fair. It was thought October would be a good time. Mrs. Chiota and Mrs. Bellows volunteered to help. Mrs. Fereira suggested it be called the Harvest Health Fair. A meeting was set for July 14 at 10 am at the Senior Center to start working on the fair. Vendor list from last year is available.

Director's Report

Mrs. Fereira reported everyone enjoyed the Tea Party.

Budget information was distributed for review. She noted not all receipts have been included from the month of May because they have not been received. \$850 was spent which was under budget.

Outside interested parties will be contacted for help with various events. The Calypso Party will be on June 13. A Spring Meadows representative is working her way around all the facilities. Mrs. Fereira noted the facility has a van. Many of their residents call for doctor's appointments. The rep noted the facility should be handling these types of transportation requests. Mrs. Fereira also noted some of the residents like to take classes at the Senior Center. The rep will see what she can do with her facility to transport the residents by the facility bus, not the Senior Center. Mrs. Fereira also discussed with her the other facilities who take turns providing snacks for activities and she was very interested. Mrs. Fereira would like to ask Spring Meadows to do the pizza and movie hour. The facility could purchase a movie, show it at the Senior Center, and then add it to the facility library. Everyone wants to be a part of the

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Calypso Party. All the facilities could bring trays of fruit and fruit punch. Mrs. Ferreira noted she found bright colored cups with straws that could be used as prizes. These would help with spills. Perhaps one of the facilities would sponsor the cups. Discussion was held regarding the money allotted for the May's activities. Motion was made to extend the \$700 that remained from the Tea Party to be used for the Calypso Party. Seconded by Mrs. Chiota and approved unanimously.

Spring Meadows will also be placing an ad in the newsletter.

Mrs. Chiota noted that on the social blogs in town, there has been an article going around regarding the fact that the membership fee is \$5.00. Mrs. Ferreira noted that the members who come to renew say they receive a lot for the membership fee including rides and classes. Mrs. Yahwak noted that if they were not charged for membership, we would have to charge them for the classes they take which are now for free. Class fee could be considerably more. Those with hardships are taken care of by Social Services. Mrs. Bellows noted that the seniors have been surveyed regarding this fee and the majority had no problem with \$5.00 and the instructors did not want to take in money each class. Out-of-townners sometimes complain about the \$20.00 membership fee.

Old Business

1. Postage for the Newsletter – Mrs. Yahwak noted the commission did not get the dispensation from the Town Council but she did speak with the First Selectman and he suggested that maybe the town could do something about it. She asked the commission if they would like to work with the First Selectman to see what can be done or go before the Board of Finance and request funding. Mrs. Bellows noted that, if the First Selectman thought the town could help, that the commission should go that route first. If that does not work, we would need to go before the Board of Finance. Mrs. Ferreira will look at her activities budget on July 1 to see what funds might be available.
2. Snack Bar/Status of Kitchen – Mrs. DeZenko stated nothing has been done at this time regarding the snack bar contract. No grant information has been forthcoming from David Rutigliano's office. Mrs. DeZenko will contact Vazzy's and move forward.
3. Senior Trips – Three trips have been planned. A request was made for a trip to the Culinary Institute. Mrs. Chiota was requested to send a thank you to Mr. DeZenko for handling the trips.

New Business

Mrs. Ferreira noted they have hired a driver and the intern is back for the summer. He will be doing a study on Alzheimers and will be interviewing some of the members.

Adjournment

There being no further business, motion was made by Mrs. Chiota, seconded by Mrs. DeZenko, to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 am.

Prior to adjournment, Mrs. Ferreira noted that from July 1st through May 1st, the Senior Center has spent \$372.00 on coffee. It is now getting to the \$500 mark. Discussion was held regarding creamers instead

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of Cremora. Milk or half and half may be an alternative. Mrs. Yahwak asked Mrs. Fereira to check with Purchasing to see if we could purchase creamers or milk. The town likes to have all purchases on a purchase order and to buy in bulk. Mrs. Fereira will purchase the milk and submit the receipts.

Motion to adjourn was approved unanimously.

Next meeting is June 27, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Clerk

These minutes are considered a draft until approved at the next meeting of the Trumbull Senior Citizen Commission.